

EXHIBIT A

Certification of Sean A. Gumbs

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

In re:

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO
RICO,

as representative of

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO,
et al.

Debtors.⁹

PROMESA
Title III

No. 17 BK 3283-LTS

(Jointly Administered)

**VERIFIED CERTIFICATION OF SEAN A. GUMBS IN SUPPORT OF
THE ELEVENTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF FTI CONSULTING,
INC. FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES
RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED AS
FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF RETIRED
EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
FROM OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021**

I, Sean A. Gumbs, have the responsibility for ensuring that the Application complies with the UST Guidelines, and I hereby certify the following:

1. I am a Senior Managing Director with FTI Consulting, Inc., together with its wholly-owned subsidiaries (“FTI”), an international consulting firm.

⁹ The Debtors in these jointly-administered PROMESA title III cases, along with each Debtor’s respective title III case number listed as a bankruptcy case number due to software limitations and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, as applicable, are: (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3284) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric and Power Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 4780) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 19 BK 5523-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801).

2. I, along with Steven Simms, lead professionals from FTI representing the Retiree Committee in connection with the above-captioned Title III Cases. I am authorized to submit this certification in support of the *Eleventh Application of FTI Consulting, Inc. for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred as Financial Advisor to The Official Committee of Retired Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico From October 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021* (the “**Application**”). Except as otherwise noted, I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.

3. I have read the Application. The statements contained in the Application are true and correct according to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

4. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry, the fees and disbursements sought in the Application are permissible under PROMESA, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the *Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act* (“**PROMESA**”), 48 U.S.C. §§ 2101–2241; the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “**Bankruptcy Rules**”); the Bankruptcy Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico (the “**Local Rules**”); the Court’s *Order Authorizing the Employment of FTI Consulting, Inc. as Financial Advisor for the Committee of Retired Employees* [Dkt. No. 1413]; the Court’s *First Amended Order Setting Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Dkt. No. 1715]; the Court’s *Second Amended Order Setting Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Dkt. No. 3269]; the United States Trustee’s *Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Large Chapter 11 Cases Effective as of November 1, 2013*; the Court’s *Order on Fee Examiner’s Motion to Impose Presumptive Standards and Timeliness requirements for*

Professional Fee Applications [Dkt. No. 3932]; and the Court’s *Order Imposing Additional Presumptive Standards: Rate Increases and the Retention of Expert Witnesses or Other Sub-retained Professionals* [Dkt. No. 7678].

5. The fees and disbursements sought in the Application are billed at rates FTI customarily employs and FTI clients generally accept in matters of this nature.

6. None of the professionals seeking compensation varied their hourly rate based on their geographic location.

7. FTI is not seeking compensation for this Interim Period for routine billing activities that typically are not compensable outside of bankruptcy.

8. FTI does not make a profit on costs or expenses for which it seeks reimbursement, whether the service is performed by FTI in-house or through a third party.

9. In accordance with Rule 2016(a) of the Bankruptcy Rules and 11 U.S.C. § 504, no agreement or understanding exists between FTI and any other person for the sharing of compensation to be received in connection with the Title III Cases except as authorized by PROMESA, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.

10. All services for which compensation is sought were professional services rendered to the Retiree Committee and not on behalf of any other person.

11. The Retiree Committee was provided with a copy of the Application before it was filed with the Court and does not object to the relief requested therein.

12. In accordance with the *Order Imposing Additional Presumptive Standards: Rate Increases and the Retentions of Expert Witnesses or Other Sub-Retained Professionals* (“Additional Presumptive Standards Order”), I certify that the Retiree Committee authorized

the rate increase, both with respect to effective date and specific amount, on a timekeeper-by-timekeeper basis.

13. FTI's 2020 and 2021 hourly rate schedules for non-owner timekeepers are as follows:

TITLE	STANDARD RATE (\$) 2020			STANDARD RATE (\$) 2021		
	Corporate Finance/ Restructuring	Forensic & Litigation Consulting	Strategic Communications	Corporate Finance/ Restructuring	Forensic & Litigation Consulting	Strategic Communications
Managing Director	\$825 - 905	\$720 - 765	\$760	\$885 - 935	\$740 - 790	\$760
Senior Director	750 - 850	675 - 700	650	850 - 875	695 - 720	650
Director	700 - 820	580 - 660	550	760 - 840	595 - 680	550
Senior Consultant	545 - 690	440 - 530	450	580 - 680	455 - 545	450
Consultant	455 - 540	350 - 400	350	430 - 515	360 - 410	350
Associate / Project Assistant	280			290		

*Does not include professionals in the Economic Consulting practice, whose rate increases will be effective on 4/1/2021.

14. On an annual basis, each FTI practice evaluates the hourly rates charged by its billing professionals to determine whether those rates should be increased based on a timekeeper's developing skill, experience, professional advancement and academic or professional level of certification. FTI's hourly rate increases are consistent with changes in market hourly rates. The 2021 rates charged by the billing professionals working on these Title III cases were set through this process, and are consistent, both in amount and timing, with rates for FTI timekeepers not working on these Title III cases.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry.

Executed on March 15, 2021

/s/ Sean A. Gumbs
Sean A. Gumbs